Northeastern Pennsylvania, the St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen, Temple Hesed, Presidents Advisory Council of Keystone College and the Economic Development Council of Lackawanna County.

Married to Attorney Joseph R. Solfanelli, the couple has three adult children.

On a personal note, let me express my appreciation to Natalie for welcoming me into the Greater Scranton community. Her boundless energy and enthusiasm are infectious; everyone who deals with Natalie is inspired to work even harder to make Lackawanna County a better place to live.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Natalie Solfanelli on the occasion of this honor. Mrs. Solfanelli epitomizes the finest level of selfless community service and the quality of life in the greater Scranton area is better because of her efforts.

TRIBUTE TO CENTENARIAN DORA KAUFFMAN OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA

# HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dora Kauffman of Hernando County, Florida. Dora has done something that all of us strives for, but that very few of us will ever accomplish, celebrate her 100th birthday.

Born January 19, 1906 in New York, DORA says that some of her fondest memories of her childhood were times spent playing games. She remembers seeing a dog for the first time as one of the happiest events in her life. She says she loved playing with the dog everyday.

Dora married and was blessed with two children, four grandchildren and several great grandchildren. She says she is happy with her life and would not change a thing if she had her life to live over.

Today, Dora gets the most pleasure from visiting with her resident friends and sitting down to a good hot meal. The one thing she likes most about Hernando County is the people, in addition to the good weather. Her favorite flower is the rose and her favorite color is blue. Her advice to the young people is to, "work hard and be good and kind to people."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring Dora Kauffman for reaching her 100th birthday. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as she has.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION DESIGNATING THE GOVERNOR JOHN ANDERSON, JR. POST OF-FICE BUILDING

# HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, joined today by my Kansas colleagues Todd Tiahrt, Jim Ryun and Jerry Moran, I am introducing legislation that would designate the United States post office located at 110 North Chest-

nut Street in Olathe as the "Governor John Anderson, Jr. Post Office Building."

Governor Anderson was born near Olathe in 1917 and educated at Kansas State University and the University of Kansas, where he received a law degree in 1944. After serving on the staff of U.S. District Court Judge Walter Huxman for two years, John Anderson won election as Johnson County Attorney in 1947, where he served for six years. He was a member of the Kansas State Senate from 1953-1956, and was appointed Kansas Attorney General, serving from 1956-1961. Elected Governor of Kansas in 1960 and 1962, he defeated incumbent Governor George Docking, served as Governor during Kansas' centennial celebration, and appointed James B. Pearson to the United States Senate upon the death of Senator Andrew Schoeppel.

John Anderson's tenure as Kansas Governor was marked by numerous achievements, including:

Revision of the state's pardon and parole systems;

Creation of a combined state medical and psychiatric hospital;

Restructuring of the state's public school system into unified districts;

Increasing of the state's per-pupil expenditure allowance;

Addition of the University of Wichita to the state board of regents system;

Sanctioning of fair employment practices standards:

Approval of an advanced public employee retirement system;

etirement system;
Advancements in highway construction;

Expansion of vocational-technical schools; Authorization of a state library consultant; Improvements in the public welfare system; and

Reorganization of state agencies, commissions and boards.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation honoring an important Kansas leader is long overdue, and I know that my delegation colleagues look forward with me to its speedy enactment.

IN MEMORY OF FRANCIS L.
BRANNIGAN, FIRE SERVICE CONSTRUCTION EDUCATOR WITH A
LEGACY OF PUBLIC SERVICE AS
A GROUNDBREAKING LEADER IN
PROVIDING FOR FIREFIGHTER
SAFETY

# HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness and tremendous gratitude to honor the life of Francis L. Brannigan, who over the years has helped firefighters be more astute to the importance of knowing building construction to promote firefighter safety. As a groundbreaking leader in providing for firefighter safety, Frank was one of the first to realize that the biggest threat to firefighters were the buildings they were working in. Throughout his career, Frank provided constant focus on the issues associated with building construction and the fire environment. The safety of firefighters was always the focus of his message and as a result, generations of firefighters will be safer

because of his message. The knowledge that he possessed, and generously shared, was second to none.

Frank Brannigan devoted more than half of his 63-year career to the safety of firefighters in building fires. He was well known as the author of "Building Construction for the Fire Service," and for his lectures and videotapes. The first edition of his "Building Construction for the Fire Service" was an instant success in 1971. Since then, it has sold more than 130,000 copies in three editions, the most recent of which was published in 1992. Designated by Fire Chief as one of the 20 people who most influenced the fire service in the 20th century, Frank Brannigan was truly one of the giants of the fire service.

Frank Brannigan was not a fire chief or an engineer, but he became one of the most important influences in the fire service in the last quarter of the 20th century. I am proud to say I knew Frank Brannigan.

Mr. Speaker, the Fire Service has lost an exceptional leader and guardian of firefighters everywhere. I wish Frank Brannigan's wife Maurine and family my heartfelt condolences and may they find comfort in knowing that the many people he impacted deeply value his dedication and generosity and the example of his life and work. Frank Brannigan exemplified the spirit of service that has made this country great. As long as firefighters fight fires, the fire service will be the beneficiary of Frank's writing, scholarship, zeal and life-saving message.

## TRIBUTE TO MARIA DE LOS ANGELES OBREGON

# HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th birthday of Maria de los Angeles Obregon Peña who was born on the 23rd of December, 1905, in San Luis Potosi, Mexico.

Maria de los Angeles Obregon Peña moved to Laredo, TX in 1910 with her two brothers and widowed mother. Her father, Gumaro Obregon, was the youngest brother of President Alvaro Obregon and was assassinated for political reasons. While in Laredo, Maria has memories of sitting on the rooftops in Laredo and listening to gun fire just across the border in Nuevo Laredo during the 1910 Revolution.

Maria attended public school until the eighth grade when she was forced to leave to help the family make enough money to sustain itself. Later, on July 10th, 1933, she married Ramiro Santos Peña in Laredo. Together, they had three children, Pauline P. Baclesse of Mexico, MO, Ramiro A. Peña of Holland, TX, and Carlos D. Peña of Clear Lake, TX.

Maria and Ramiro were both active members of the Primera Iglesia Bautista where their children were baptized. Maria credits her outlook on life and her faith in God for her longevity. Laredo is proud to have Maria as a citizen, and is pleased to celebrate her 100th birthday.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the chance to honor a fine citizen of Texas.